

#### **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND 5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE MILLINGTON TN 38055-0000

MILLINGTON TN 38055-0000 NAVPERSCOMINST 1500.1 PERS-00M

4 SEP 2003

# NAVPERSCOM INSTRUCTION 1500.1

From: Commander, Navy Personnel Command

Subj: MENTORING AT NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND

Ref: (a) CNO Guidance for 2003 - Achieving Sea Power 21

1. <u>Purpose</u>. To provide guidance for the development and management of a mentoring climate at Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM).

2. <u>Background</u>. The growth and development of our force is key to mission accomplishment. Reference (a) directed Navy leadership to "create a mentoring culture." This initiative will propel NAVPERSCOM to even greater heights by enhancing a command climate that builds a winning team.

# 3. Discussion

- a. Mentoring provides professional relationships that foster free communications between protégés and their mentors concerning their careers, performance, duties and mission. A mentor is a trusted council who provides guidance and shares experiences with juniors. A mentoring culture allows those who participate to benefit directly from the life experiences of others through the development of trusted professional and personal relationship.
  - b. The goals of NAVPERSCOM mentorship are to
- (1) ensure every Sailor has a mentor that meets their professional and personal needs.
- (2) educate the command on the purpose of mentoring, the benefits of a mentoring culture and the commitment necessary to make mentoring work.
- (3) foster the professional and personal development of Sailors.

## c. NAVPERSCOM will foster mentorship by

- (1) ensuring every new check-in receives a short brief on NAVPERSCOM mentoring from the command mentorship coordinator.
- (2) teaching mentoring as part of indoctrination training.
- (3) providing periodic training sessions to reinforce the command's knowledge and understanding of mentoring.
- (4) establishing a permanent working group chaired by the command mentorship coordinator, made up of all PERS-code mentor coordinators, with oversight by the Command Master Chief (CMC), to continually assess and improve the process and resources available to mentors.

## 4. Definitions

- a. <u>Mentor</u> "A trusted counselor or guide." Mentoring therefore is a relationship in which a person with greater experience and wisdom guides another person to develop both personally and professionally.
- b. Protégé Can be defined by a range of terms such as mentee, candidate, apprentice, aspirant, trainee and inductee. Through all of its definitions a protégé is someone who commits themselves to a mentoring culture and their mentor; takes on new responsibilities and challenges; seeks feedback; and accepts responsibility for their own growth and development.
- c. <u>Sailor</u> For the purpose of this instruction, Sailor includes all enlisted and officer personnel.

### 5. Responsibilities

- a. Commander, Navy Personnel Command (COMNAVPERSCOM) will define program requirements and overall direction.
- b. Assistant Commanders, Navy Personnel Command (ACNPCs), Staff Office Directors (SODs) and Special Assistants (SAs) are responsible for embracing and promoting a robust mentoring climate.

#### c. CMC will

- (1) coordinate the command wide mentor initiative.
- (2) ensure a command mentorship coordinator is assigned.
- (3) monitor initial mentor training via the indoctrination program.
- (4) approve course curriculum for continued mentor/protégé training.
  - d. Command mentorship coordinator will
    - (1) establish and maintain NAVPERSCOM command mentoring.
- (2) coordinate all new NAVPERSCOM personnel attending the initial mentorship brief through the command indoctrination program.
- (3) ensure records of initial mentorship training, through command indoctrination, are verified with the command check-in process.
- (4) coordinate NAVPERSCOM continuing mentor training to include scheduling, assignment of lecturers, and input into course curriculum.
  - e. PERS-code mentorship coordinators will
- (1) assist supervisors in maintaining an effective mentor/protégé process within their specific PERS-code and establishing mentor/protégé development.
- (2) maintain records of completed mentorship training for all associated personnel.

### f. Supervisors will

- (1) maintain an effective mentor/protégé process.
- (2) establish mentor/protégé assignments.
- (3) ensure all Sailors attend initial mentorship indoctrination and required refresher training.

(4) assign a PERS-code mentorship coordinator to assist in monitoring the mentoring process.

#### g. Mentors will

- (1) act as a trusted counselors, or guides, who assist the mentored Sailor in setting and achieving goals.
  - (2) normally be senior to the protégé.
- (3) discuss short and long-range personal, professional, and educational development goals and ways to achieve them.
- (4) provide guidance, support, and encouragement throughout the time of the mentorship agreed upon.
  - (5) be available to frequently meet with the protégé.

## h. Protégés will

- (1) be a willing participant in the mentoring process.
- (2) be allowed to request a new mentor via their supervisor if their present arrangement is not meeting their goals.

## 6. Action

- a. ACNPCs, SODs and SAs will maintain an effective mentoring process and culture.
- b. Numerous guides and support information are available at http://web.bupers.navy.mil/pers015/mentor/default.htm.

J. N. TOWNES, III

Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy

Distribution:
COMNAVPERSCOMINST 5218.1A
List 1A, 1B and 2A